— Expanding the base of quality Tobacco in light soils by indentification of suitable soils.

— Regular monitoring and strict control of pesticide residues.

— improving grading at farm level.

**Auction Platforms in Tribal Areas of Andhra Pradesh**

4335. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Tobacco Board has put up auction platforms in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the number of such platforms catering largely to tribal areas ; and

(c) the quantity of tobacco purchased last year from such auction platforms ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b), Three in 1994 season.

(c) Platform.

| Platform | Qty. Marketed ((Kgs.) in 1993 |
|---|---|
| 1. Bhadrachalam-I . | 4,672,478 |
| 2. Bhadrachalam-II . | 3,057,866 |
| 3. Koyyalagudem . | 5,781,451 |
| 4. Jangareddy Gudem | 7,712,794 |

**Non-product Specific A.M.S. on Agriculture**

4336. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) The Domestic Support in India on Non-Product Specific Aggregate Measurement Support in the list of commitments in agriculture as provided in GATT proposals on Diesel, lubricants, machinery and finance etc ; and

(b) how much support component of non-product specific Aggregate Measurement Support on fertilizer, electricity, major, medium and minor irrigation, credit and seeds are attributed to 17 products specified in the list of Product Specific Aggregate Measurement Support ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) The non-product specific Aggregate Measurements Support (AMS) has been calculated taking into account subsidies on fertilizers, credit, electricity, irrigation and supply of seeds during the base period 1986—89. The support being non-product specific in nature, it cannot be attributed to any product group. The details of calculations of AMS on these items are provided in the Schedule of commitments to GATT, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

No separate calculation has been made in respect of diesel, lubricants, machinery, finance etc.

**Consignments Inspected by Export Inspection Council**

4337. SHRI MATANG SINH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of consignments inspected by Export Inspection Council, in Delhi during the last three years, year-wise ;

(b) the number of them that were found lacking specifications prescribed by Government during this period;

(c) the action taken against the erring exporters/manufacturers;

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to remove the compulsory pre-shipment inspection and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) what other steps Government proposed to take to ensure quality control of export goods in accordance with international standards ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The Export Inspection Council (EIC) does not carry out any inspection of export consignments. 5 Export Inspection Agencies (EIAs) under the administrative